TRADE RELATIONS

NAFTA conference at college

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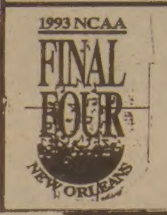
STUDENT LIFE

Photographers capture the life of a student

Pages 8, 9.

SPORTS



NCAA Predictions for 1993

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NIAGARA COLLEGE
of Applied Arts and Technology
WELLAND CAMPUS
LEARNING
RESOURCE CEN

Niagara News

Vol. 23, No. 13 Published by the Journalism-Print Program, Niagara College, Welland, Ont. **Friday, March 19, 1993 16 pages**

Just taking a load off

In the aftermath of Saturday's winter storm Ashlee Simpson, 2, of Niagara Falls, shovelled up some fun for herself.

Photo Karen Kranjac

Controversy prompts students to run for board of governors

By TROY CLARKE
Staff Writer

This year's school-year restructuring controversy is prompting three students to run for Niagara College's Board of Governors.

Three-term Student Administrative Council veteran Dale Deloughery, student protest leader Stuart McDonald and first-year Business Administration program student Kelly Arcand are counting on Niagara College's student body to propel one of them to victory in Monday's student governor election.

Dale Deloughery, 24, a second-year Human Relations program student, is hoping his SAC experience, which includes one year as president, and his involvement with administration during restructuring dialogue will get him on the board.

McDonald, 25, a first-year Journalism-Print program student, who holds a political science degree from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ont., is running on the momentum from his organized 36-week school year protest.

Kelly Arcand, 20, said she would like a seat on the board because she can help students get more involved in administrative issues, particularly part-time and non-traditional students.

Deloughery, a Welland native, said McDonald's protest did help defeat restructuring but not as much as his own efforts.

"He definitely had something to do with it but I don't feel he did as much as I did, or SAC."

"The whole month of February I was in meetings with the administration. I made a great impact on the administration choosing the schedule they did," said Deloughery.

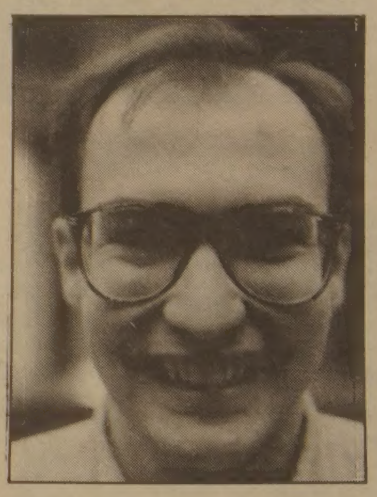
McDonald, an Oakville, Ont. native, stressed he is not claiming responsibility for the plan's demise, but added Deloughery should not either.

"I think there are a lot of different people that got together and helped change the system," he said

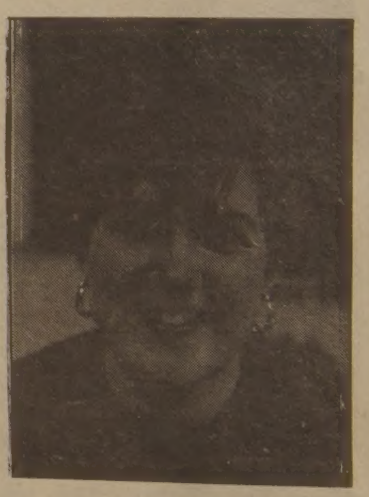
The controversial proposed restructuring would have seen the school year lengthened to 36 weeks from 31 weeks but was scrapped after being met with strong opposition from staff and students.

Continued on page 12

DALE DELOUGHERY



STUART MCDONALD



KELLY ARCAND

'Final stages' for purchase of new site

By STUART KRICK
Staff Writer

The site for the new campus in St. Catharines will be announced as soon as it is purchased, says Niagara College President John Saso.

The college is in the final stages of buying the land and will soon begin an environmental assessment. This assessment will take between three and eight months.

Saso said after the environmental assessment is completed, the college will receive the government grants that were promised to the college. And that construction is expected to begin from three to six months after receiving the grants.

Niagara Regional council endorsed the college's Master Plan at the Feb. 18 meeting, passing a motion urging the provincial government to release the funds for the Master Plan.

The campus site, which borders St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Thorold and Niagara-on-the-Lake, will have the benefit of being within a 35 to 40-minute drive from anywhere in the peninsula.

Saso said the proposed site is a "wonderful piece of land," and as well as being "easy to get to," the site will allow for later expansion.

He said it will be the "first post-secondary institution people will see on entering Ontario from the U.S., which will be very important to the school."

Of all colleges in Ontario, Niagara College has been forgotten by the provincial government over the last 15 years when it comes time to allocate funds, Saso said.

"Go to any college in the system, and then look at our college, and you will know what I mean."

Saso said he can't "think of any other college that has a 100 year-old factory" as one of its campuses, and where three out of four buildings are temporary. He said it's time the province redressed the situation.

SAC positions filled by acclamation

By TROY CLARKE
Staff Writer

When the nomination deadline passed Tuesday for next year's Student Administrative Council, three students found themselves elected by acclamation, and three remaining SAC positions had no takers.

Kristen Sorensen, SAC vice-president external, took the presidency, Brad Billard retains his vice-president social affairs post and newcomer Jeremy Lowe takes on the vice-president internal office.

The nomination deadline for the executive, external and athletic vice-presidencies has been extended to March 26, at 4 p.m.

Nomination

Lou DiMattio, SAC liaison, said she is disappointed but not surprised the three positions were not filled.

She said Sorensen and Billard will bring experience to SAC next Year, but added she would like to see " a few new faces."

"I'm excited," said Sorensen, 20, a first-year Law and Security Administration program student.

"I think anyone would be glad they wouldn't have to go through a campaign, but I would have given it my best shot if I had to go through an election," she said.

Billard, 20, a first-year Business Administration program student, said he is not surprised he was the only candidate for his position.

"I'm just surprised no one took the interest to run in most of the positions. I don't think there's too much enthusiasm,"he said.

Lowe, 19, a first-year Business Accounting program student, said he decided to run during the Wintercourse activities. Lowe added he knew no one was going to run for the internal position.

Meanwhile, Sorensen said she is

Continued on page 16

Tickets available for job fair

By PATRICK ASELSTINE
Staff Writer

If you're graduating this year, but don't know where to start looking for a job, next month's job fair in Toronto may be a good place to start.

ACCIS, a national, non-profit association which provides services in the areas of career development and student recruitment in Canada, is organizing the April 1 event at Varsity Arena.

Niagara College has 200 tickets for the event, which are available to graduating students and alumni from the past two years. Tickets cost $4 and must be purchased in advance at the college's career services office, as no tickets will be sold at the door, said Janet Forfar, career services officer at the college and a member of the ACCIS planning committee.

Tickets are available to each program based on the number of students in it. If a program doesn't use its allotment of tickets, those remaining will be available to all students on a first-come, first-serve basis, beginning March 24. Tickets may also be purchased for one of two Student Administrative Council-subsidized buses, which will provide transportation to the event.

The purpose of the fair is to match individuals with up-to-date skills with employers who recognize that success depends on innovation and keeping pace with change, said Forfar.

A list of those employers, which includes Canada Trust, Canada Life, K-Mart Canada Ltd., New York Life, Toronto Hospital, Fisher Scientific Ltd. and the Metro Toronto, along with Peel and Niagara Regional Police forces, will be posted around the college and can be seen at the office. Students wishing to attend should realize, because 19 colleges and universities will be sending graduates, the fair will be busy, said Forfar.

"We have a tip sheet available at the office . . . they (students) must be prepared to target a few employers they want to see because it will take time," said Forfar.

Students at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls and Horticulture Centre in St. Catharines who would like more information about the fair can call Forfar at extension 7787 or see her during her weekly office hours at those campuses.

Class of 1993

Registered Nurses and faculty members Jane Hennigar (left front) and Heather Turner (right front) stand in front of the February, Health Care Aide graduating class. Pictured above are Barbara Armstrong, Tracey Boyd, Linda Cerminara, Maxima Cruz, Christina Dintino, Elaine Edwards, Chantelle Hamm, Lise Losier, Lori McDonald, Melanie Ortega, Krista Pressey, Carol Robins, Lesley Romano, Jane Roussell, Jennifer Russell. Also graduating but missing from the photo are Lynn Albanese, Lauren Boswell, Stephanie Coughler, Valerie Misener, Joanne Pollard, Lisa Ruscitti and Fay Yuu Tran.

Photo by Kim Morphew

Kiss the Flame

Everyone plays a role

By Heather D. Hodgson
Law and Security Administration Program
Special to Niagara News

In the last issue we explored the responsibilities of drivers, passengers and friends. If we accept the concept that impaired driving is a social issue, then, everyone plays a role.

Hosts may feel that they are immune. There have been civil suits where the host of the party was successfully sued when a guest left and was involved in a collision. Apart from the civil consequences, how would you feel if your friend left your party and a few minutes later was dead? Could you have stopped him or her? What could have been done differently? Perhaps by thinking about these questions NOW, you can spare yourself later grief. You can make a difference: the way that you serve your drinks . . . quantity of alcohol; food available early and throughout the night; fewer salty treats; and non-alcoholic alternatives. Knowing your friends helps in deciding what actions would be effective.

Any one of us could be the next victim of an impaired driver. Even if we have taken care to ensure that we are good hosts who "don't let friends drink and drive"; we don't ride with impaired drivers; or we don't drive while impaired, we can still be victims.

There are some simple steps to increase our chances of survival. Proper use of seat belts and child restraints ensures that we are kept in the vehicle and the impact is spread over the boney areas of the body. Proper use of seat belts means that the lap belt is snug, low on the hips; the shoulder strap is across the shoulder. Child restraints come with instructions. Basically the child is strapped snugly into the seat; the seat is secured by the vehicle seat belt. Remember, an infant is to face the rear of the vehicle. This assists in spreading the impact and having the seat absorb as much of the impact as possible.

Securing articles in the trunk keeps them from flying forward and striking vehicle occupants. Using care around intersections. Being "dead right" because you had right of way but the impaired driver failed to yield doesn't change the fact you are dead. Using defensive driver techniques gives a great advantage. Using the assumption that the other driver is drunk, can help get into a mind set of driving with more care.

Pedestrians should apply similar techniques. Double check before crossing, even if you have a green light. Wear light colored clothes and reflector tape on shoes or jackets when jogging or cycling. Walk facing traffic, as far away from the roadway as possible. Again, assume that the driver is drunk to help you get into the mind set of being a defensive walker.

A final consideration. If you see an impaired driver, would you report him or her to the police? Realistically? Would you take the licence number, description and direction of travel and call the police? Some would hesitate, in fact, most people are reluctant to call in on an impaired driver. Especially if that person is a friend or relative.

What if you knew that he or she would kill your child if you didn't do something? What if you knew that he or she would smash into a pole and died if you didn't do something? Would that change your mind?

Who is responsible for this problem? To coin a phrase, if you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem.

Next issue: Victims.

Take your heart to court.

Or on a bike ride.
Or out for a walk.
Whatever your sport, vigorous physical activity can help keep your heart healthy.

HEART AND STROKE FOUNDATION
Improving your odds against Canada's #1 killer.

Night clerk robbed by lone man with gun

A Niagara Falls motel was held up by a male who said he was armed when he demanded cash from the night clerk. The victim was the Days Inn, located at 5943 Victoria Ave., Niagara Falls, Ont.

On Thursday, Feb. 11, 1993, at approximately 5 a.m., a lone male entered the front lobby with his hand in the pocket of his jacket. The clerk was told the man had a gun and wanted all the money in the till.

Although a weapon was not shown, the robber kept his hand in his pocket. The employee handed over a sum of money, in U.S. funds, as instructed and the culprit fled on foot.

The suspect is described as male, white, in his 20s, 5'5" tall, average build with shoulder-length black hair and brown eyes. The male was wearing a black jacket, yellow shirt, blue jeans and sneakers at the time of the robbery.

On exiting the front lobby doors, the thug ran westbound, towards the Days Inn rear parking lot. A security monitor showed a vehicle speeding away from the lot onto Ellen Avenue.

If you have any information regarding this robbery, or any other crime, call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-263-8477, that's 1-800-AND-TIPS to be eligible for a cash award up to $1,000. In all cases, you will not have to reveal your identity.

CRIME STOPPERS
TIPS
NIAGARA
SOLVE A CRIME ANONYMOUSLY-EARN A CASH REWARD
1-800-263-8477 and-tips

The Niagara Regional Police in co-operation with Crime Stoppers Niagara Inc. writes this column to help combat crime. A citizen board administers the local program. Reward money is raised through tax deductible donations. Cheques may be sent to Crime Stoppers of Niagara Inc., P.O. Box 1086, St. Catharines, Ont. L2R 7A3.

Niagara Regional Constable honored, 'takes pride' in crime prevention

By SHERI GOODMAN
and DUNCAN WARRENER
Staff Writers

For three years he initiated crime prevention programs in the Niagara Region. He helped start Campus Watch at Brock University and Niagara College.

Niagara Regional Police Constable Thomas Trojan was recognized for his efforts at a Crime Prevention awards luncheon at Brock University last month.

Const. Trojan exemplifies community policing, said Len Griffiths, a representative of the Ministry of Solicitor General and Correctional Services.

"Crime prevention is everyone's responsibility. Community policing offers ideas," Griffiths said.

"To build safer communities we must involve a broad range of partnerships," Griffiths said, adding police and the community need to work together to prevent crime.

"We need to make ourselves accessible to the needs of the community. The first challenge is for all of us to listen to the victim," Trojan said during a public forum earlier in the day.

Eleven members of Crime Prevention Ontario (Zone 4) received awards for their assistance in making their communities safer.

"All volunteers should take pride in knowing all their efforts make a difference," Griffiths said.

Campus Watch, which started at the college in May 1992, is aimed at promoting crime and drug awareness. It is also aimed at generating support for and participation in crime prevention. It is based on the idea of Neighborhood Watch.

Niagara Regional Police Constable Thomas Trojan received an award for his effects in crime prevention from Len Griffiths, representative of the Ministry of Solicitor General and Correctional Services. Trojan is a sterling example of the concept of community policing.

Photo by Duncan Warrener

Security guard earns Award of Merit

By SHERI GOODMAN
Staff Writer

Dianne McMillan, 48, shift supervisor of security at the college, is the first college security guard to receive an Award of Merit and a $50 cash bonus from Metropol Security of Hamilton.

"When you go about your daily duties and tasks and give yourself whole heartedly to your job, you don't really think that you have done anything outstanding or worthy to be praised of in any way," McMillan said.

She was notified two days before she received the award that she was chosen.

"I was quite surprised that I would be chosen for such an honor," McMillan said.

She received the award last month at the Welland campus. Ken McConnell, operations supervisor of Metropol Security, presented the award.

She was chosen for the award because of her dedication and leadership in her job.

"She goes above and beyond the call of duty. She has earned the position of shift supervisor because she takes it upon herself to get involved," said McConnell.

McMillan is the liaison between Metropol Security and Niagara College.

"It was my decision to give her the award because of all the little things she has done for Metropol and for the college," McConnell said.

In May 1992, McMillan won the security officer of the month award.

"They are awards that every officer here can obtain through his daily duties, and all officers have a chance to strive for," she said.

McMillan has been at the college for 51/2 years and said she plans to stay here.

> "Security is a career today, where it used to be a stopping off point to a better job."
>
> **Dianne McMillan**

"I love my job. It's a very responsible and rewarding job and the college is an excellent place to work. I'll continue to work here at the college for as long as they'll let me work here," she said.

McMillan is proud to be in security work.

"Security is a career today, where it used to be a stopping off point to a better job, but because Metropol stresses promoting within there are chances for every officer to climb the ladder right within the company. There are more people today making a career out of security than ever before. It's a responsible job; a job that any officer can be proud to perform," McMillan said.

Community policing prevents violence, listens to victims

By DUNCAN WARRENER
and SHERI GOODMAN
Staff Writers

Community policing helps prevent violence in our neighborhoods, said Dr. Robert Trojanowicz, keynote speaker at a public forum on crime prevention held last month at Brock University.

"We can solve problems in our countries whether it's the Gulf War or violence in our neighborhoods," he said.

"We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers."

"To improve services we need everyone's involvement. To work, to learn, to otherwise enjoy," said Frank Parkhouse, deputy chief of the Niagara Regional Police.

The NRP co-sponsored the forum with the Ontario Ministry of Solicitor General and Correctional Services.

Trojanowicz, an author of several textbooks and articles, is the director of the National Center for Community Policing at Michigan State University. He is also a Research Fellow in the criminal justices policy and management program at Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

Trojanowicz said information and community services often leave victims out and forget about them.

Victim Services needs to be a forum of informal interacting.

"We need police, community social agencies, politicians and the media to be involved. By having all these groups involved the theme transmitted is, we're in this together," Trojanowicz said, adding there is a need to break down the anonymity of the predator, the police officer and the citizen.

Valerie Goodbrand, co-ordinator for the Brant County victim crisis assistance and referral service, outlined the volunteer service.

"There's a lot of victim services, but we're all working for the same end," she said.

Presently, the service is taking a reactive role. When victims consent, one of 100 volunteers is sent to speak to them, comfort, and give them options. Two volunteers are sent but never two men.

Goodbrand said she hopes the service can be a more pro-active one with teaching and committees.

Just as with Goodbrand's services, Stacy Sheehan, assistant crown attorney, acts after an offence has occurred.

Volunteers for community services volunteered 1,100 hours of work last year, said Niagara Regional Police Constable Thomas Trojan, a crime prevention officer.

"The challenge is developing services for the community that will serve local needs," Trojan said. "We must make ourselves accessible to the needs of the community. Victim services must and will be provided. The first challenge is for all of us to listen to the victim."

David Bolton, chaplin with the NRP, serves on a board which gives an opportunity for victims and the accused to listen to each other.

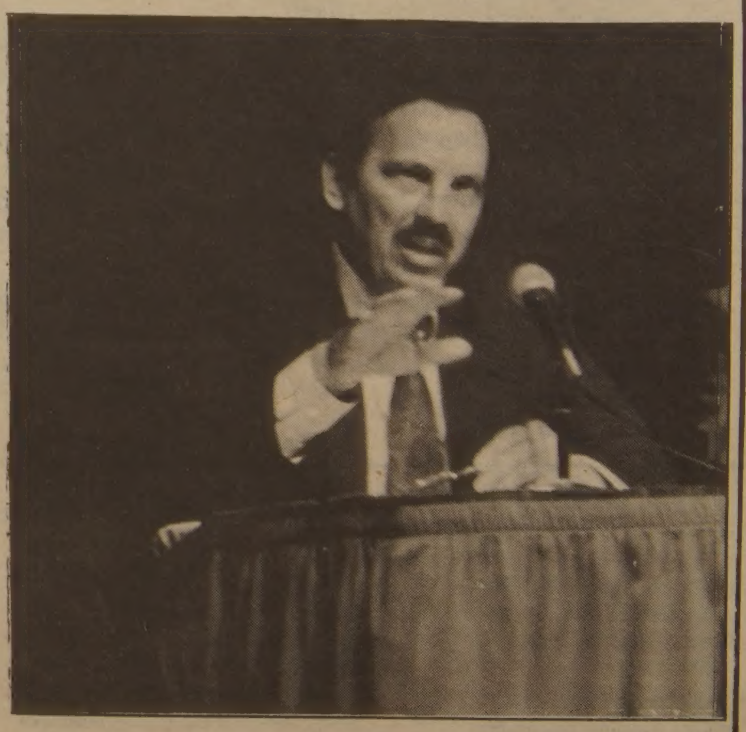
"They meet and realize the other person is a person with anger and with hurt."

He outlined three types of justice. The first being retributive justice as the process of making sure people get what they deserve.

The second is distributive justice; seeing people get what they need and restorative justice; making things right between people.

"Community policing is a philosophy that must be done on an experimental area," Bolton said.

"Sometimes I go home feeling that Canadians have an inferiority complex towards us. We look towards you for suggestions just as you look towards us," said Trojanowicz.



Dr. Robert Trojanowicz spoke at a public forum on crime prevention at Brock University. Trojanowicz said that community policing will reduce violence in our neighborhoods.

Photo by Duncan Warrener

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

Recession not over yet for job-seeking graduates

There is a sense of frustration among 1993 graduating students.

Graduates of universities and colleges realize the dream job is not out there waiting for them. Most of them understand the work they accomplished to graduate will be insignificant in comparison to the effort they must put forth to obtain a decent-paying job.

Who is at fault for this injustice to Canadian graduates? Some say the government.

The federal government continually changes its explanation as to whether the recession is over or still embedded in the Canadian economy.

Numerous out-of-work graduates are evidence that the economy is not getting better. How are the graduates of 1993 going to compete with those graduates unemployed since 1992?

In the early 1980's graduates were hired everywhere in the workforce. Now, the chances of being hired for a good position seem to be similar to winning the Lotto 649.

The workforce is an employers' market. Survival of the educated and creative is the new ideology surrounding employment. Some graduates are using new tactics such as eye catching resumes to get an employer's attention.

Personality and flexibility have become factors in hiring. It is unfortunate that people must "song and dance" a potential employer for a job these days.

Unfortunately when jobs are unavailable people will do anything to keep their job; this opens the door for employers to take advantage of and exploit employees who desperately need the job they have.

For all of those graduating, realize that your full-time job this summer is looking for one.

Samantha Magill

Blame resting on Johnson's 'steroid-enhanced' shoulders

What could Ben Johnson have been thinking?

It's pretty safe to say Johnson, who for a short period in history, was known as the world's fastest man, obviously wanted to reclaim that title any way he could. He apparently figured drugs were the only way.

His two-year ban from international competition for using performance enhancing drugs at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, seemingly did not make him rethink his position on the issue.

He has let his country down yet again. But this time, it appears Canadians aren't quite as shocked.

It has gotten to the point where people simply don't feel sorry for him anymore. And why should they?

He doesn't deserve to compete. Not only has he irreparably scarred his own reputation, but also that of Athletics Canada, which has done an admirable job of cleaning up track and field.

Although Ben Johnson never claimed to be the brightest guy in the first place, one would think he at least had enough will to compete at his best drug-free. Maybe he did have coaches who wanted him to be the world's best, and would stop at nothing until he got there. That still does not take the blame off Ben's steroid-enhanced shoulders.

No one will likely ever know who all the guilty parties are in Ben's controversial career, but under most circumstances, athletes are ultimately responsible for their own actions. And Ben Johson's actions just got him banned for life.

Who will be next?

Darren Esau

NDP patronage process hypocritical : Bradley

By TROY CLARKE
Staff Writer

The New Democratic Party's patronage process at Queen's Park "takes no back seat," says Liberal deputy house leader Jim Bradley.

Bradley, who sits on what he calls the "useless" Government Agencies Committee, questions the quality and philosophy of Premier Bob Rae's patronage appointments stating the premier has every right to make the appointments but calling him hypocritical for saying he is doing something different.

"They've set the standard. No government following them will have to worry about criticism from the NDP for patronage," Bradley told about 25 second-year graduating Niagara College journalism students Friday.

"The bagman from the New Democrats gets appointed to the police commission and so on down the line."

Peter Kormos, NDP Welland-Thorold MPP, said the problem lies with higher profile appointments.

Kormos cited the appointment of Progressive Conservative Andy Brandt, to the head of the Liquor Control Board of Ontario.

"What a wonderful opportunity for this government to have demonstrated its commitment to equity for women, for visible minorities, for the disabled, yet who gets appointed? I like Andy, he's very confident, but who gets appointed but the whitest and most male, and most middle class and most Tory of people," Kormos said.

"On down the line we've seen similar failures to recognize that we're a New Democratic Party government and not just the same as the Liberals and the Tories."

Bradley said although he doesn't like to say "I told you so," he gets some personal satisfaction hearing others say the New Democrats are no different than the Liberals or the Conservatives.

Shortly before taking office in 1990, the NDP announced it would review what it called political favoritism. Before the election, NDP policy stipulated political contributions and allegiance would not be rewarded with "plum" positions. Since then, the premier has been under fire for abandoning that policy.

Rae's appointment of reporter David Agnew to a position traditionally reserved for career civil servants-secretary of cabinet-infuriated opposition parties last September, stirring up charges of favoritism. Agnew is widely believed to be the chief architect of the New Democrat's 1990 victory.

Bradley is the former interim *Ontario Liberal leader and served* as environment minister in David Peterson's government.

WCB rules in favor of student placement

By DARREN ESAU
Staff Writer

It's over!

There is relief among Niagara College officials and local employers to a decision handed down regarding work placement.

After months of indecision and debate, it was finally decided that the province will pay workers' compensation premiums for students who work at a placement and might get injured on the job.

"Clearly the province has heard the concerns about placements from the college and the employers," said Carol Boettcher, vice-president of student life and resources.

Not only does it relieve the college that finally its students will be assured placement, also individual employers, such as Regional Niagara and area hospitals will not have to shell out the money.

The changes would have affected 175 students at Regional Niagara and 180 at the hospitals, said Boettcher.

When the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) announced its proposed policy change, Regional council and the hospitals' board of trustees decided to honor only its present commitments to students and would not take any more student nurses and other health-care students after July 1.

It immediately prompted warnings by colleges that tens of thousands of students would not be able to graduate if employers would refuse to take them, because they need practical experience as part of their course requirements.

Niagara News Vol. 23, No. 13 March 19, 1993 16 pages

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The Niagara News is a practical lab for the Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of Niagara College.

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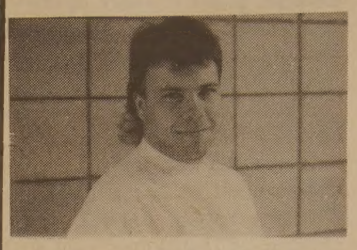
News tips call ex. 7750

Letters welcome

Your voice or opinion is welcome in our letters to the Editor section. All letters must be received on the Thursday before publication week. Each letter must include the student's name, college identification number and program of study. All letters must be signed and include a day and evening telephone number for verification use only. All letters can be mailed or brought to the Niagara News newsroom, Rm. S212, Simcoe Building, Niagara College, P.O. Box 1005, Woodlawn Road, Welland, Ont. L3B 5S2.

PERSPECTIVES

Any excuse for a party will do



By PATRICK ASELSTINE
Staff Writer

While it can be as simple as opening a can of Irish stew and throwing a U2 compact disk in the stereo, St. Patrick's Day is usually an elaborately-planned and much-anticipated celebration around the world.

St. Patrick was born in Britain and taken to Ireland in the fifth century, where he spent six years as a slave. After escaping and studying for the priesthood in France, he returned to Ireland in 432 and introduced Christianity to the Irish. Today, 96 per cent of Ireland's population is Roman Catholic and St. Patrick, as the patron or guardian saint, is honored each year with a national holiday on March 17.

The popularity of St. Patrick's Day as a day of celebration throughout the world is evidenced in places like Moscow, Denmark, France, Italy, Germany and Korea - all of which have their own unique cultures and customs, but still celebrate the holiday by "wearing the green" and drinking a few pints of stout. The saying, "Everyone's Irish on St. Patrick's Day," certainly applies.

In Canada and the United States, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated in watering holes and in the streets, where parades are a traditional way of observing the day and announcing spring's arrival. Last year, more than 200,000 people watched the St. Patrick's Day parade in Toronto, Ont., which was revived in 1988 after an 112-year absence. This year's parade in Montreal, Que., will be the city's 166th. A snow storm postponed last Sunday's

parade in Buffalo, N.Y. until this weekend.

Garcia's Irish Pub, located on Pearl Street in Buffalo, gears up each year for the annual increase in business the parade and St. Patrick's Day brings. In only 10 years, Garcia's has managed to become synonymous with St. Patrick's Day, says David L. Wolk, the pub's manager.

"Our location, our food, the size of our place, along with the fact that we're an Irish pub, all make Garcia's a Buffalo tradition," says Wolk.

This Sunday Wolk expects 2,500 customers at the pub before, during and after the parade. Live Irish music, corn beef and cabbage lunch and dinner specials, green beer, green hats and prizes will be served to celebrants on three floors by 90 staff members, said Wolk. Garcia's normally employs 20 people on Sundays, so St. Patrick's Day is obviously special, representing a great increase in business - about a 1,000 per cent increase, says Wolk.

The Barnea Tavern in Fort Erie, Ont. also does plenty of business each year on St. Patrick's Day. Owner Jim Doukas, who expects about 600 patrons to visit the bar this year, explains his version of why St. Patrick's Day is so widely celebrated.

"I think it's a party that brings people together. It's a coming out of winter. It's the only day people get to relax and have fun with other people," says Doukas.

Whether you choose to celebrate St. Patrick's Day or not, you can be sure to see plenty of shamrocks and leprechauns adorning people and places this year on St. Patrick's Day - one of the most popular single-day celebrations in the world.

We're all Irish on the 17th

SAMANTHA MAGILL
Staff Writer

Is there anyone who isn't Irish on St. Patrick's Day?

St. Patrick's Day, a celebrated national holiday in the country of Ireland, represents the legend of St. Patrick; a man who drove the snakes out of Ireland in the fifth century.

However, this noted calendar day for North Americans represents a day to be Irish.

Why have people from all ethnic circles adopted this holiday as a reason to show their "Irishness," and celebrate in a fashion which surpasses even New Year's Eve on a scale of inebriation.

There is no other holiday which unites people with more diverse and ethnic cultures and backgrounds. Everyone understands that the wearing of green or a green clover on March 17 exemplifies Irish tradition.

St. Patrick's Day allows people to belong to a celebration of friendship, good tidings and the beginning of spring.

However, too much good cheer, and 'Irish eyes' won't be 'smilin' the morning after.

"One of the greatest places to go and celebrate is Garcia's Irish Pub in Buffalo, N.Y., " said Jerry Mastroanni, a Welland resident. "As you can tell I'm not Irish, but after spending a St. Patrick's Day evening at Garcia's you sure feel the Irish tradition."

Because St. Patrick's Day is five days before the first day of spring, people are easily excited about the rebirth of a new season which ties into this special day. Friendly attitudes evolve during this time of year; people like to be involved together to celebrate.

St. Patrick's Day begins spring off for everyone who are Irish and those who are only Irish on St. Patty's Day too!

Like the saying goes, "It's an Irish Spring."

Misunderstanding among the sexes

By KATHERINE AGNEW
Staff Writer

Men! Women! Will we ever truly understand each other?

Many times women collectively give each other the knowing sympathetic look for another's embarrassment or grief over a man. You know, the one that says, "Men, they just do not get it and they never will. I feel sorry for her too."

And, yes, there are times when a man is left thinking, usually after a woman either bursts into tears or abruptly turns on her heel and storms away, "WHAT? What did I do this time?"

I have to admit, there are times when I would like to throw my hands into the air in exasperation over women. I know I am part of the sex myself, and I certainly do not want to come across as sexist, but there are times.... Sometimes it is easier to be friends with men. They do not become furious when you do not call them back; they are not offended when you go shopping with someone else; they do not involve themselves in the petty, back-stabbing rituals that women habitually do.

On the other hand, I will always cherish the close friendships I have made with other women. Sometimes it is easier and more rewarding to be friends with women. They do not pass your problems off as being just another mystery of the female sex; they do not mock your tears over the Bell long distance commercials, in fact they cry with you; they always have clothes to borrow and they'll usually do all the stupid things that you want them to do.

Now that I think about it, there are times when I would like to throw my hands into the air in exasperation over men.

Oh well, as a friend said, "Both answer different needs, at different times and in different ways. Bless' em all." I guess we'll have to settle for that.

Russian congress votes to strip Yeltsin's powers

By HENRY MALUNDA
Staff Writer

Are we heading for another Cold War?

A four-day emergency session of the Russian Congress of People's Deputies wound up Saturday, March 13 in Moscow, Russia, with unanimous support for a resolution stripping Yeltsin of his powers to initiate legislation, rejecting pleas for his power-sharing accord with the congress, and making him vulnerable to impeachment.

The resolution also undermines Yeltsin's proposed referendum scheduled for April 11, 1993, in which he intended to take the decision as to who should rule Russia to the people. The Russian congress voted last December to accept the referendum but parliamentary chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov, who led the recent attack on Yeltsin, later opposed it.

The 1,033-member congress is Russia's top legislative body which is dominated by conservatives opposed to Yeltsin's reforms. It voted 656-184 for the resolution, with 41 abstentions and five deputies who did not vote.

Scott Mullin, Canadian External Affairs Minister's press secretary, said in Ottawa on March 12 Canada wants an early action to the Russian crisis.

Speaking to a meeting of the G-7 countries held in Hong Kong on March 12, Canada's G-7 representative Reid Borden, said the Western industrialized countries should help Yeltsin with cash.

Canada has provided Russia with about $2 billion in financial assistance since its independence from the former Soviet Union.

U.S. President Bill Clinton has reiterated America's commitment to supporting Yeltsin's democratic policies. Speaking to reporters at the White House on Saturday, March 13, Clinton said he supported the "democracy in Russia and the movement to a market economy," and Yeltsin as the elected president of Russia.

The U.S. president is expected to meet the Russian leader in Vancouver, B.C., on April 3 to discuss the latest developments in Russia.

There are growing fears among western industrialized nations that the fall of Yeltsin's government may plunge Russia into civil strife and give the hardline parliamentary deputies an excuse to return to a communist-type of government.

Communism, which is strongly opposed by the western countries, has been responsible for the former East-West confrontation known as the Cold War. It has also been responsible for massive arms build-up and a number of military conflicts, especially in the Third World countries.

Talks outline NAFTA, alternatives

By PATRICK ASELSTINE
Staff Writer

Citizens concerned with the harmful effects they believe a ratified North American free trade agreement will have in Canada gathered for a conference at Niagara College Feb. 19 and 20.

The conference, NAFTA - The North American Free Trade Agreement and You, presented by the Niagara Area Labor Councils and the Labor Studies program at the college, featured speakers from Canada, the U.S., Mexico, Central and South America who talked of the harm they believe the current agreement would cause in each of the countries and of possible solutions.

The speakers, and audience of about 80 people, consisted largely of labor, human rights and environmental activists whose aim was to raise the public's awareness of the harm the agreement could cause.

Bob McCallion, president of the Welland and District Labor Council and one of the conference's organizers, said it was important to do more than simply criticize the agreement.

"We have to be involved in free trade. We want to present the actual harm it does to people, but we also wanted to present alternatives. We don't want to be in a position where we're always being perceived as negative," said McCallion.

'We want to present the harm it does to people, but we also want to present alternatives.'
Bob McCallion

William McGoughey, an accountant from Minneapolis, Minn. who has written a book on free trade, knew most of the speakers and organizers from previous rallies and conferences.

"We're generally part of a network of activists concerned with the free trade agreement and North American solidarity and developing contacts between Canadians, Americans and Mexicans to promote an alternative to free trade and, I would have to admit, to stop it if that's possible," said McGoughey.

The conference featured a keynote address by Dick Martin, secretary-treasurer of the Canadian Labor Council (CLC), along with workshops by a number of speakers from the U.S., Mexico and Central America: McGoughey; Mary McGinn, a women's labor activist and author; Domingo Gonzales, an environmental activist who works in the U.S.-Mexico border region; Jorge Sorjer, a professor at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ont., who is from South America; and Consvelo Valladares, the former president of communications workers in the Honduras who now lives in Toronto.

Sherri Rosen, co-ordinator of labor studies at Niagara College, vice-president of the St. Catharines and District Labor Council and one of the conference's organizers, was pleased with the turnout for the area's first NAFTA activity.

"We would have liked to have had more, but there were other NAFTA activities in Toronto that weekend," said Rosen.

Paul Anderson, 37, a first-year general college student at Niagara College, plans to study business and wanted to better understand working conditions from a worker's standpoint as opposed to traditional education which teaches students how to think as managers.

"I enjoyed it very much. I'm very enlightened as to the plight in Central and South America. I never realized such hardship existed, so it really opened my mind," said Anderson.

Sorjer, born and raised in South America, said hardship does exist in the Third World.

"Those of us who come from the Third World have experienced it in our bones. It's not something we have to learn. In North America and Europe, even though governments are bad, they're relatively not as bad."

Workshops attack trade deal

In order to provide more jobs for Canadian workers, governments and employers must help produce more justice for Third World citizens, says Jorge Sorjer, a member of the Central American Human Rights Association and a professor at McMaster University in Hamilton.

At a free trade conference at Niagara College in Welland Feb. 19 and 20, Sorjer said a ratified NAFTA will allow the exploitation of Third World workers to continue.

Sorjer said 90 per cent of El Salvador's population earns less than poverty-level wages, creating a situation where 70 per cent of the population has no buying power and can't participate in the global market. The large percentage of people who have difficulty existing provides the country with its "competitive edge," which companies from Canada and the United States exploit. The agreement will increase the level of exploitation, says Sorjer, adding it would make more sense to give these workers a "living wage" that would enable them to become a "real market."

Malnutrition is highest among children in regions that produce coffee for world trade, Sorjer says. Rather than benefiting from world trade, these areas are exploited by it. The only economic advantage is the cheap labor companies receive.

Sorjer says bad forces are "entrenched" in the governments of many Latin American countries where "beautiful" labor laws are ignored.

"Nobody pays any attention to them. The law is whoever has the gun and the money, because with the money you buy the guns," he said.

The north-south dialogue at the conference was good, said Sorjer, adding that it needs to become stronger with workers from the Third and First Worlds uniting.

"That will be beneficial to both. The other alternative is that we'll be fighting each other. I don't think that's the spirit of the trade union movement and it's not the spirit of humanity."

Reports written by Patrick Aselstine, a second-year journalism student, who attended a free trade conference held at Niagara College Feb. 19 and 20.

Unions targeted

Consvelo Valladares, former president of communications workers in the Honduras, was forced to leave her country when trade unionists were fired and went missing.

Valladares, at a free trade conference at Niagara College in Welland Feb. 19 and 20, talked of conditions in her homeland, where people work between 12 and 14 hours a day, often for less than $2. She said the repressive government uses education, the media and the threat of taking individuals' jobs away as methods of controlling the population.

The National and the Liberal parties, the Honduras' two main political parties, are essentially the same, said Valladares, adding the Honduran government has recently privatized water, light, telephone and social services.

"They're basically denying them to many people," she said.

Around 1980 the major effort to undo the structure of trade unions in the Honduras began, said Valladares. Organizations parallel to unions were formed by people "politically in line with government and multinational companies." These organizations dismantled the unions, forcing executive members to flee the country. Valladares was hidden by peasants until she was able to escape. She now lives in Toronto.

"I believe the Honduras is a laboratory experiment and there is a great design. So let's be clear on this and let's look for solutions to stop this exploitation," she said.

Alternative visions

Many national groups opposed to the North American free trade agreement, outline shared goals for what the agreement should achieve, but are lacking in methods for how to achieve them, says William McGoughey, author of a book on the agreement.

McGoughey, an accountant from Minneapolis, Minn., and co-editor of an international newsletter, "Society for the Reduction of Hours in Labor," conducted a workshop on his alternative visions to free trade at a conference on the agreement Feb. 19 and 20 at Niagara College in Welland.

McGoughey said government needs to intervene in the labor market to ensure workers are able to survive.

"Labor, as a commodity, is subject to supply and demand. Right now, that equation is out of balance because the demand for labor has been undercut by investment and automated equipment. The only solution I can see is to shorten work time correspondingly," he said.

McGoughey said trading blocs in Europe and Asia are ahead of North American free trade when it comes to reducing work time.

"We're the ones completely out of sync with what's going on with the rest of the world. Let's get on the program here and help the human race for a change."

A reduction in work time won't translate to lower wages, said McGoughey.

"I happen to believe in the free market. If you have adequate balance in supply and demand, wages will take care of themselves. The price of labor will rise as the imbalance is corrected."

McGoughey said he supports regulated trade, with tariffs charged specifically to companies based on their environmental and labor practices rather than the products they produce. Companies would be rewarded for responsible behavior or forced to pay for irresponsibility. The U.S. taxpayer is paying for environmental cleanup necessitated by dumping from companies, said McGoughey.

Animosity destroys trade deal

By PATRICK ASELSTINE
Staff Writer

Comment

When will we learn?

The battle which has resulted from the North American free trade agreement is a prime example of how labor and management on this continent have wasted time, energy and money battling each other.

The agreement, drawn up by the federal government, appears to place corporate interests above job creation and the long-term welfare of the country. It seems transnational corporations, with a large assist from the Conservative government, are exacting revenge from labor for the last 30 or so years when unions have enjoyed great power.

The Conservatives claim we must take a cue from Asians and Europeans - whose trading blocs have created large markets - to compete in the future. There's only one problem: those trading blocs are the results of an effort from labor, corporations and government to address the future prosperity of each.

While the free trade agreement has some good points, we should not settle for anything less than the best deal we can get - one where everyone benefits. Until the gap between labor and management is closed, we will never achieve it.

Hoax just a day in the life for deejay Tim Lock

By TROY CLARKE
Staff Writer

Tim Lock fashions himself The Joker, literally.

When the 23-year-old CHSC radio host showed up at St. Catharines City Hall last Wednesday to launch his alter ego Leonard Starr's New Canada Party — the hoax of the decade around here — his green suit, purple tie, severed-finger tie clip, 50 cent glasses and bad hairdo made him look like the evil villain right out of Batman.

When he walked out on the steps of city hall, he looked a little nervous, hands behind his back, pacing, and although he admits he was nervous, he said it's all part of the scam.

"Aren't all politicians scared little rabbits when it comes to reporters asking them questions?" Lock asks.

"It was all part of the scam. Although it was actually nervousness, it gave an air of credibility to a very incredible story."

Lock answered reporters' questions like a true politician: Dodging them one by one. He expressed disappointment and offered the weather as an excuse for the poor turnout; no one showed up, but that was his plan.

"Leonard Starr" is a throwback to Lock's earlier days as a deejay at Niagara College, subsequently resurrected for Lock's daily phone-in show The Night Zone.

Posing as Starr, named after Ringo of The Beatles fame, Lock fooled everyone except St. Catharines Standard reporter Vince Rice, who Lock gives a lot of credit to.

"Vince Rice showed the most journalistic integrity of anyone because he didn't believe it blindly. When I did my interview with the Star, they were buying it all, but Vince was skeptical from the beginning like a good reporter should be."

"Maybe Vince Rice should be working for the Toronto Star."

The Standard compared Starr's photograph to that of Lock's in a CHSC newsletter, concluding the two were one and the same.

The Toronto Star originally broke the story of the new political party breaking onto the scene on March 10. But The Standard uncovered the hoax before it went to press, unlike the Hamilton Spectator and several Niagara radio stations.

The Canadian Press news service picked the story up and Lock's exploits were plastered on newspapers across Canada. His sister called from Saskatoon, Sask., when she read the news.

Lock says he wasn't ready for reporters' questions because he wanted the press conference to be authentic.

"I didn't prepare for any of the interviews I did for The Standard or the Toronto Star. I just let it fly, like most politicians do."

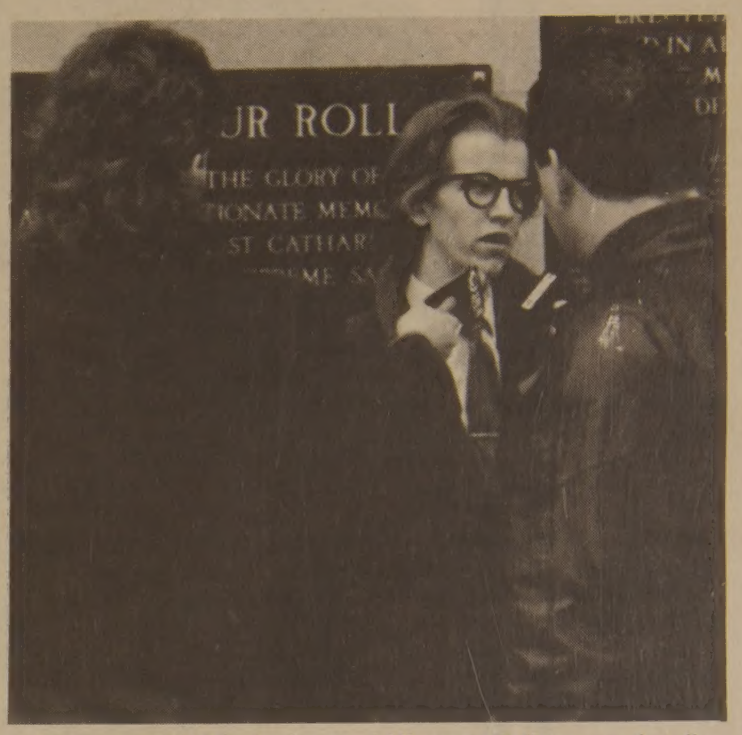
Responding to criticism from David Spencer, co-ordinator of the broadcast-journalism program at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ont., Lock just shrugs his shoulders and says Spencer is entitled to his opinion.

"Did I make fun of handicapped people? Did I make fun of a minority? Did I try to embezzle people's money? It was a harmless little lark."

Lock says his hoax, contrary to other beliefs, does not betray his listeners' trust because "it's not my fault newspapers don't check their sources properly."

"The Toronto Star is the second largest newspaper in Canada, and I got 'em!"

What does Lock hope to achieve from all this? Ask his listeners. He has been hitting them all week with his new title: "King of all Media."



Tim Lock, CHSC deejay and Niagara College grad, tells reporters he is starting a new federal youth party in St. Catharines, Ont., last week. Lock's hoax went across Canada on the Canadian Press wire service.

Photo by TROY CLARKE

SAC Wintercourse ads harassment say students

By TROY CLARKE
Staff Writer

Two Niagara College Students are "speaking out" against advertisements they say are a form of sexual harassment against women.

The advertisements were used by the Student Administrative Council to promote this year's Wintercourse activities.

Pat Dracup and Debra Rose, both second-year Social Service Worker program students, say the ads display "disgusting" acts of sex.

One ad, which Dracup and Rose said depicts masturbation, shows a blind-folded cartoon character playing volleyball. The other ad, which they said represents two male bears sodomizing a female bear, shows three polar bears holding on to each other's waists.

"These ads are a form of sexual harassment," said Rose, adding SAC should become aware of issues related to sexual harassment and the escalation of violence against women.

"I'm embarrassed to think someone I'm working with on placement would come in here and see these things," said Dracup.

However, SAC President Dale Deloughery defends the ads, calling them a marketing ploy which is obviously working. He added no sexual connotation or innuendo was intended.

"It caught their attention so it's definitely a marketing ploy that's working," said Deloughery, adding "I think these woman are making more out this than is actually in the picture."

However, Deloughery said he can see how the ads could be construed as sexual, "If your mind is not thinking in a marketing way."

In the meantime, Rose said if SAC put their bright minds together, she is sure they can come up with some alternatives.

Paul Grummett, SAC vice-president athletics, apologized publicly at Wintercourse celebration, saying he was sorry if the ads offended anyone; however, he said that was not his intention.

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CONCERNS
ISSUES

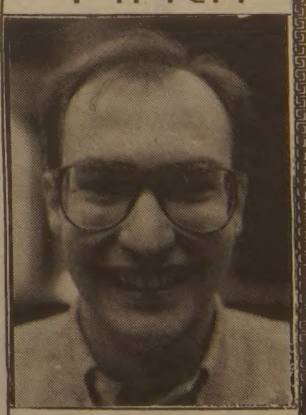
ELECT DALE DELOUGHERY
STUDENT GOVERNOR

The Person With
EXPERIENCE

Voting March 22
Locations:
ME 100
Cafeteria
Continuing Ed.
Hort., Mack., Hosp.
10:00 - 3:00
H21 6:30 - 8:30

Board of Governors
Vote
4
Stuart McDonald
March 22

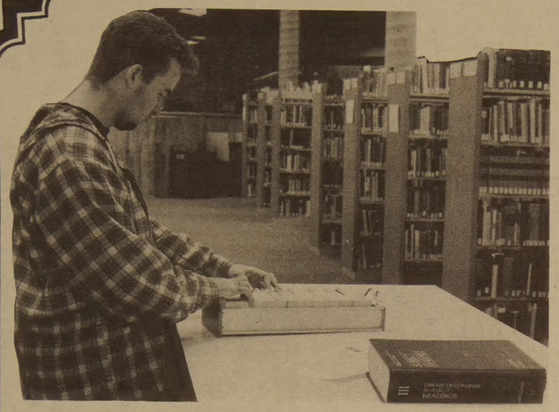
"I TALK

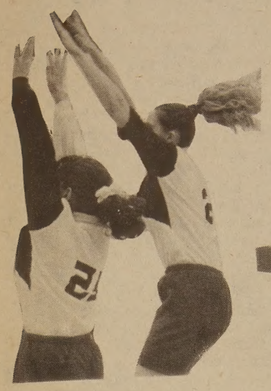


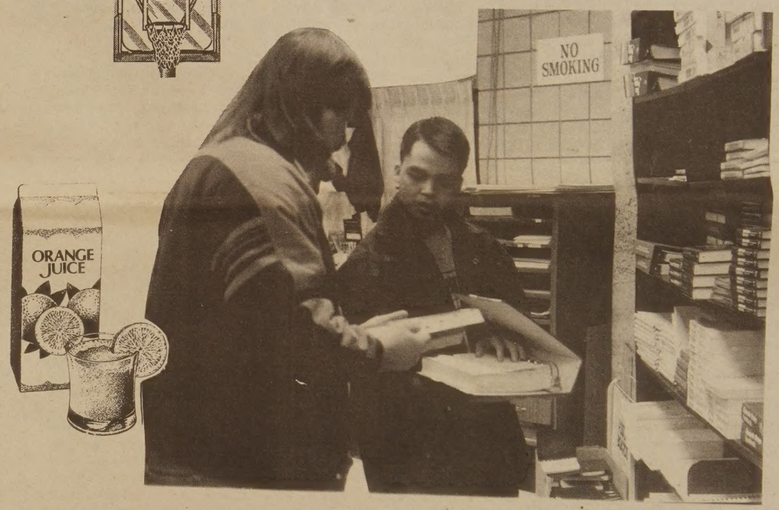
MY WALK"

RESUME & TYPING SERVICE
Prepared quickly, economically and conveniently.
Get a competitive edge!
384-9928
On-Line Professional Services.

STUDENT LIFE







FINANCIAL AID

A TO Z

Photographs from the portfolios of Kim Morphew, Duncan Warrener, Sheri Goodman, Troy Clarke, Katherine Agnew, Patrick Aselstine, and Frank Iudiciani

SPORTS

Abbs makes predictions

Selanne, Potvin, LaFontaine among picks for NHL awards

By LLOYD ABBS
Staff Writer

In a season in which surprises happen every day, never in National Hockey League history have so many players and coaches been in contention for prestigious NHL trophies. As the season winds down, candidates vye for the respective awards.

One trophy has already been decided. Teemu Selanne of the Winnipeg Jets is a shoe-in for the Calder Trophy as the NHL's premier rookie, Although this award is wrapped up, special mention should go to these outstanding rookies: Joe Juneau and Dmitri Kvartalnov of the Boston Bruins and Felix Potvin of the Toronto Maple Leafs. The Vezina Trophy for the NHL's top goaltender should go to Felix Potvin of the Toronto Maple Leafs. Although Potvin is a rookie, he has shown great composure this season, leading the league in average. Ed Belfour of the Chicago Blackhawks, Patrick Roy of the Montreal Canadiens, and Curtis Joseph of the St. Louis Blues should also be mentioned for exceptionally good goaltending this season.

Prediction: Potvin

The best race for a trophy has to be for the Hart, as the league's most valuable player. First there is Mario Lemieux of the Pittsburgh Penguins, who after missing two months, could still win the scoring title. A detriment to Lemieux though is the fine cast of supporting players on the Penguins -possibly too much talent. Next is Doug Gilmour of Toronto. Gilmour has proven that he's one of the best in the league, pulling a pathetic bunch of lazy bums into a contender. Gilmour does have Hart, but maybe not as much as Pat LaFontaine of the Buffalo Sabres. LaFontaine has made the Sabres into an offensive powerhouse (with the help of teammate Alexander Mogilny), which has definitely given Buffalo fans something to cheer about. Credit should also be given to New York Islander centre Pierre Turgeon. His 100 plus points surpasses all his teammates by 40 points. If, by any stroke of luck, the Isles make the playoffs, Turgeon could win the award. The final player in the running for the Hart is Detroit Red Wing centre Steve Yzerman. Single-handedly he carried the Wings for eight years, and now is finally getting a little recognition.

Prediction: LaFontaine

Next up is the Norris Trophy for the NHL's best defenceman. Leading all candidates is Chicago's Chris Chelios, a former Norris Trophy winner, who has solidified a weak Hawk defence, while putting up excellent offensive statistics. Steve Chiasson of the Red Wings, who I personally recommended for the All-Star game, also deserves some votes after plugging most of the holes in a porous Detroit defence. Another in the running is Al Iafrate of the Washington Capitals, who since leaving Toronto, has become an offensive jewel. Those are the three leading candidates for this award but a honorable mention to Norm Maciver- Ottawa Senators, Steve Duchesne- Quebec Nordiques, and Gary Suter of the Calgary Flames.

Prediction: Chelios

The Frank J. Selke Trophy (a.k.a. the Guy Carbonneau award) for the league's best defensive forward should go to Sergei Fedorov of Detroit. Last year's runner-up has proven he is an expert in the art of defence while still excelling in other aspects of the game. He is always mentioned when talk of this award arises and due to the lack of competition this year, he should become the first Russian to win the award. Gilmour, Dave Reid of Boston, and Theoren Fleury of Calgary should also be considered, but that's it.

Prediction: Fedorov

The league's most gentlemanly player award (Lady Byng Trophy) is up for grabs. Turgeon, Mogilny, Adam Oates of Boston and Joe Sakic of Quebec all have a chance to take the award but Turgeon is on the worst team of the four, so give it to him.

Prediction: Turgeon

The Jack Adams Award for the league's best coach will be easily won by Pat Burns of Toronto. Burns, who was second runner-up last year, has taken a bunch of washed up, toothless, ham-and eggers, and turned them into a competitive NHL team. Out in Calgary, Dave King has restored a little respect to the Flames' name, having his club play for first overall in the league. The other candidate is Pierre Page in Quebec. Albeit the Nordiques have talent, to move up from 21st overall to one of the top five teams in the league is a dramatic improvement.

Prediction: Burns

The Bill Masterton Trophy for the player who best exemplifies sportmanship and dedication to hockey, should definitely go to Mario Lemieux, after his two-month hiatus with Hodgkin's Disease. Lemieux will be pushed by Mike Foligno of the Leafs, who overcame a career-threatening leg injury which kept him out last year.

Prediction: Lemieux

The final award is the Stanley Cup going to the league's best team in the playoffs. I've thought about this one. A Penguins-Flames final is inevitable. Give the Cup to the **Flames** in six.

Message to non-curlers

Give the sport a shot

By JENNIFER HERR
Staff Writer

The following is an exerpt from an actual conversation:

"There's some good curling on TSN tonight."

"Good curling? Isn't that an oxymoron?"

Oh — ha ha.

No, that is not an oxymoron. Thunderous silence is an oxymoron. Sweet sorrow is an oxymoron. But good curling most assuredly is NOT.

The offending question came from a person who has only the most remote knowledge of the sport, gained when, much to his dismay, curling replaced some other sport on The Sports Network.

This, unfortunately, is the dim source of enlightenment available to many a non-curling sports enthusiast.

To gain greater understanding of the finesse, sportsmanship and athleticism required for curling, one need only to (pardon the pun, but it's there) give it a shot.

Finesse is probably the most important aspect of the game. A good curler can tell you and, more importantly, feel the difference between a 23 second and a 24.5 second rock. This type of exacting sensory power does not simply appear — it takes a great deal of practice and a considerable amount of skill. I invite any non-curler to come out onto the ice and throw a 23 second rock.

Sportsmanship plays an important part in the game also. Aside from the occasional tantrum thrown by a rare thwarted curler, there is between little and no animosity shown between athletes on or off the ice. In what other competitive sport will you find players from both teams sitting together after the game expressing no degree of bitterness?

Athleticism is the one major aspect of the game I can't seem to sell people on. It simply and honestly doesn't look like a physically draining sport. And I'm certain the fact that most of the competitors at the Brier, the Canadian Men's Curling Championships, are in their 30s doesn't help my argument any. (By the way, I'm not saying that being in the third decade of life makes a person old; it's just not a normal sporting prime.) Further, let's face it, there are numerous . . . well . . . chubby people partaking in the sport. However, there is still a very strong athletic aspect of the game. Strong sweeping, simply put, requires a strong body.

Furthermore, right now, in your living room, I'd like everybody to put themselves in the delivery position for curling. Then, imagine drawing the trailing leg back and pushing 40 pounds of granite the length of the ice surface.

Point made? Good!

By the way, there IS indeed some good curling on TSN over the next few weeks. It's hoped there will be a greater appreciation of the sport to go with it.

Oxymoron indeed!

Curlers represent college

By DARREN ESAU
Staff Writer

Four Niagara College students represented the college at the Ontario Curling Playdowns in Ottawa, Feb. 26-28.

Skip Mike Slatter, vice Tracey Niesen, second Jeff Fraser, and lead Jennifer Herr, competed at the mixed provincial championships and came away with a 1-4 record.

An impressive 2-1 performance one week earlier at the southwestern Ontario division playdowns at the Welland Curling Club, allowed the Niagara College squad a berth in the provincial final.

For Jennifer Herr, 22, a second-year Journalism-Print student, curling for the college is a continuation of something she has enjoyed doing for much of her life.

"I curled for nine years, took three off and this is my first year back," says Herr, adding that her interest in the sport is pretty much genetic.

"My parents both curl," says Jennifer, who grew up curling at the Ennismore Curling Club, near Peterborough, Ont. "There was also a good junior program in Ennismore that really kept me in it."

Herr was skip on her all girls team in St. Peter's High School in Peterborough, and presently plays second in a woman's league in St. Catharines. Having the opportunity to curl on both mixed teams and all women's teams, she certainly doesn't hide which one she prefers.

"I like mixed much better," says Herr who has won a fair amount of trophies during her years of curling. "There is a better balance on mixed teams because you're less likely to disagree."

Although Herr has had the opportunity to play for some cash, she prefers not to.

"I don't play for money. You put money into it and people tend to get too competitive," she said.

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6080 Mcleod Rd. Niagara Falls 358-8862

Hoopsters get bronze

By RICK KINZEL
Staff Writer

Niagara's men's basketball team went to the big dance but stubbed their toe before finding the floor.

The Knights came into the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association's championship here on Feb. 26 and 27 with hopes of winning it all, but walked away with the bronze medal after losing in the first round to eventual winner, Loyalist College from Bellleville.

Niagara got off to a slow start against Loyalist and trailed by seven points at half. The Knights closed to within one point in the second half but failed to take the lead. Loyalist won 85-79. Merv Wrighton led Niagara with 23 points while Loyalist's Scott Reid led all scorers with 24 points. Rick Sinclair had 22 points for Niagara.

Loyalist moved on to beat Cambrian College of Sudbury in the final 83-68 to claim the gold medal. Marc Lesage of Loyalist led all scores in the final with 25 points.

Niagara's Paul Grummett had a big game against St Lawrence College of Brockville in the bronze medal game with 23 points. Niagara controlled the whole game winning 80-71. Scott Currie led the Knights with 25 points.

Grummett was named to the all tournament team. Allan Jones of Loyalist claimed the tournament's Most Valuable Player award.

Niagara had two players named league all stars. Rick Sinclair made the first team while Scott Currie made the second team.

Jones selected to all-star team

Volleyball team captures bronze for second straight year

By FRANK IUDICIANI
Staff Writer

It must feel like deja vu for the Niagara College men's volleyball team as they captured the Division Two bronze medal for the second straight season in playoffs held at Redeemer College in Ancaster on Feb. 19 and 20.

Niagara defeated Conestoga College of Kitchener in four games (15-9, 15-9, 10-15, 16-14) to win the bronze.

"It was a very slow match," said Knights' head coach Ray Sarkis. "It took us a little while to get going."

Kevin Jones, Jim Konrad, and Brent Roszell combined for 15 kills in the first two games with Jones supplying eight.

The Knights blew a 9-4 lead in the third game by allowing Conestoga to score nine unanswered points to win 15-10.

However, Niagara turned the tables in the fourth game by bouncing back from a 13-4 deficit to tie the game at 14-14. Roszell took over from there with two straight kills to win the game 16-14.

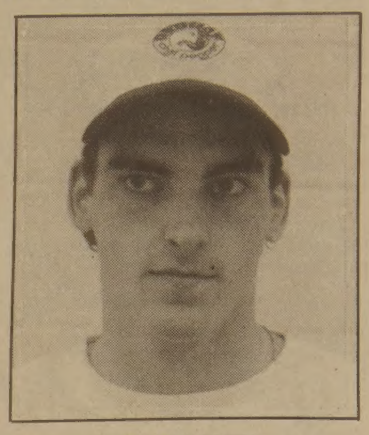
Jones led the offensive attack with 14 kills, followed by Greg Heyder 12, Roszell 10, Brian Dekker and Konrad five, Alain Belanger three, and Rick Holman one.

Niagara lost to Redeemer College in the semi-finals in four games (15-9, 12-15, 10-15, 12-15) on their way to the bronze medal match

The Knights silenced an estimated 300 hostile Redeemer fans by winning the opening game15-9.

The second and third games were tightly played as both teams matched each other hit-for-hit and block-for-block. But, Redeemer's Terry Talsma took over and led his team to three straight wins.

"I told the guys that Redeemer doesn't quit easily," Sarkis said.



KEVIN JONES

"It's disappointing because it shows we don't have discipline. We just couldn't stop him (Talsma)."

Jones led the Knights with 12 kills, followed by Heyder with 11, Konrad and Roszell six apiece. Jones was also the defensive standout with 10 blocks followed by Konrad with five.

The Knights opened the playoffs by sweeping Algonquin College of Nepean in three straight games (15-12, 15-12, 15-10).

"It wasn't very exciting volleyball," Sarkis said. "We dropped down to their level of play."

Jones was the story of this match as he had 14 kills followed by Heyder and Roszell with 10 each, Konrad eight, and Dekker two.

On the other hand, Niagara was swept by Cambrian Collge of Sudbury (9-15, 6-15, 9-15) in their second match of the playoffs.

"Cambrian's discipline helped them," Sarkis said. "They would not relinquish the lead."

Jones' 12 kills led the Knights' attack followed by Konrad with nine, Roszell seven, Heyder six, and Dekker two.

"Even though we lost, we were pleased with the way we played," Sarkis added.

Cambrian College won the Division Two championship by defeating Redeemer College in the gold medal match. Cambrian will now go on to play a challenge match against the fifth-place team from Division One.

Niagara's Kevin Jones was the lone Knight named to the tournament's all-star team. He averaged 13 kills a match and was also a defensive stalwart for the Knights.

Niagara's genie predicts...

NCAA championship will feature a Vanderbilt victory

By ROGER STROOP
Staff Writer

I have been given the privilege of offering my predictions for the NCAA basketball tournament, which began yesterday. I am certain there are several others who are more qualified to do this, but here goes anyway.

In the East region, North Carolina is the No. 1 seed. Coach Dean Smith always seems to have a national championship contender come tournament time, but a loss in the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament final casts some doubt on the Tar Heels' ability to win the big show. I see them knocked out in the third round by the always dangerous Arkansas Razorbacks, who will proceed to lose in the regional final to the University of Cincinnati. The Bearcats will cap a strong season with their second consecutive Final Four appearance.

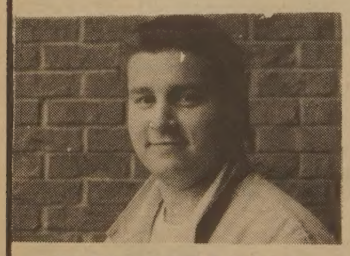
In the Midwest, the top seed belongs to perennial superpower Indiana. Also lurking in the region, however, is two-time defending national champions Duke. A showdown between two masters of college coaching, the Hoosiers' Bobby Knight and Mike Krzyzewski of the Blue Devils, seems inevitable. It will happen, and it will likely produce the tournament's best game. Look for Player of the Year candidate Calbert Chaney to lead the Hoosiers to victory, thereby justifying their No. 1 seed.

In the Southeast, Kentucky may very well have the dubious distinction of being the first top seed eliminated from the tournament, possibly having to face underrated Utah in the second round. No. 10 seed to Memphis State should be a team to watch, with Anfernee Hardaway, regarded by many to be one of the top five players in Division I. Hardaway may have the talent to duplicate the feat David Robinson accomplished a few years ago with Navy, that is, carrying a team on his back to a regional final-but no further. Look for the fourth-seeded Iowa Hawkeyes to ride a wave of emotion created by the mid-season death of team member Chris Street to the Final Four.

In the West, Michigan's Fab Five freshmen have learned what the national championship means, and the pressure that goes with this knowledge will likely see them upset in the third round, likely by the surging Yellowjackets of Georgia Tech. Tech, however, will be denied the trip to New Orleans by Vanderbilt, led by Billy McCaffrey, a member of Duke's 1991 title team who transferred to the Tennesee school and will now lead the Commodores to the Final Four.

Now with the teams determined, it is time for me to predict what will happen during those last three pivotal games in New Orleans. I believe that Indiana will wallop Cincinnati in one semifinal, while Vanderbilt will pull away from a drained Iowa squad in the other. In the final, the winner will be, after a game decided by no more than three points...Vanderbilt. It promises to be the most exciting moment for a group of men called the Commodores since Lionel Richie left the 1970s singing group.

General Managers continue waiting game as March 22 trading deadline approaches



By FRANK IUDICIANI
Staff Writer

As the National Hockey League's trading deadline approaches on Monday at 3 p.m., a number of stars seem to be on the wish list of Stanley Cup contenders.

The biggest name being thrown around is Dave Manson of the Edmonton Oilers. Detroit, Chicago, Toronto and Buffalo have admitted to inquiring the asking price for his services and it's steep. Edmonton GM Glen Sather is holding all the cards and is playing a waiting game with the rest of the league. Sather, like Toronto GM Cliff Fletcher, has the ability to make trades which dramatically increase his team's chances of advancement. Sather is probably looking for some young players, high draft picks, and some cash for stubborn owner, Peter ($) Pocklington. Look for Manson to end up a Leaf in a deal for youngsters Joe Sacco, Drake Berehowsky and cash.

Plenty of teams are looking to add some scoring punch for the playoff run and names such as Murray Craven of the Hartford Whalers, Kelly Kisio of the San Jose Sharks and Kevin Dineen of the Philadelphia Flyers, have been mentioned in trade talks. Look for Craven to wind up in Calgary as part of a deal to include disgruntled defenceman Michel Petit and a first-round pick. While Kisio could find his way to Detroit in a one-for-one deal for centreman Paul Ysebaert.

The Vancouver Canucks have been searching for someone to quarterback their powerplay all season and when Detroit acquired Paul Coffey from Los Angeles, they turned their attention to Hartford's Zarley Zalapski. However, the Whalers would want Vancouver's best young defenceman, Jiri Slegr, in any deal involving Zalapski. But expect to see Zalapski in a Canuck uniform before the start of the playoffs.

There should be a few minor deals before Monday, including Ottawa's Mike Peluso heading back to his former club in Chicago. Other players likely on the move include New York Rangers' goaltender Mike Richter, Edmonton's Martin Gelinas, Hartford's Steve Konroyd and enforcer Jim McKenzie, and New York Islander defencemen Rich Pilon and Tom Kurvers.

Athletes to be honored at 24th annual awards banquet

By FRANK IUDICIANI
Staff Writer

Niagara College's 24th annual athletic banquet will take place Tuesday, March 30 at the Ameri-Cana Hotel, 8444 Lundy's Lane in Niagara Falls, beginning with cocktails at 6 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Awards will be handed out for male and female athlete of the year, freshman athlete of the year, and most valuable player.

The following intercollegiate athletes are invited to attend:

GOLF: Ray Morin, Pat Preston, Mark Cottringer, Scott Dickson

BADMINTON: Ben Langendoen, Sean Ellis, Phil Grant, Tara Lochhead, Kelly Rutherford, Tara Parliament, Irene Thompson, Greg Stewart

TOUCH FOOTBALL: Mike Halle, Alex Toth, Dan Macnab, Winston Grosse, Rich Gautier, Darren Sawyer, Kendal Zimmerman-McGuire, Steve Henry, Rick Holt, Jim Holt, Jim Meek, Sean Ellis, Chris Breen, Jean Louis Absolonee, Muchtar Ganief

VOLLEYBALL: Amy Charko, Cheryl Colyn, Joanne Cuttris, Sabrina DeMeo, Lisa Duquette, Tammy Froese, Tina Koziej, Jennifer McMillan, Laurie Shipp, Donnell Stayzer, Sandi Winfield, Alain Belanger, Brian Dekker, Greg Heyder, Rick Holman, Kevin Jones, Jim Konrad, Brent Roszell, Donald Shantz

HOCKEY: Rob LeMaitre, Steve Cote, Pat Skuta, Rob Lafleur, Rick Ryan, Andrew Clark, Mike Dakin, Fred Monfils, Simon Wayda, Dale Zimmerman, John Anger, Chris Karpinchick, Rob Wylde, Mike Emond, Derek Rewberry, Steve Andrews, Chris Dunstall, Chris Bradnam, Dan Yakubowski

CURLING: Keith Hawkins, Charlotte Wiseman, Denise Egan, Jennifer Herr, Cath Sathmary, Mike Hamilton, Jason Trout, Mike Slatter, Jeff Reed, Tracey Niesen, Jeff Fraser

INDOOR SOCCER: David Robertson, Frank Serra, Rob Lenik, Pat Ricci, Ian Nandoo, Adam Thomas, John Hilbing, Danny Carlesso, Bernie Snjegotinac, Barry Chester, Kieran Freel

BASKETBALL: Rick Sinclair, Merv Wrighton, Scott Currie, Frank Keltos, Cam Bell, Dan Macnab, Paul Grummett, Mike Mercier, Jeff Allen, Chris Breen, Adrian Golombek

Survivor Racine seeks YOA changes after Pinard death

By SAMANTHA MAGILL
Staff Writer

Imagine your life following the path you have always wanted it to. You are meeting your goals, living on a high, enjoying life.

Suddenly tragedy strikes changing the entire picture.

No one understands this better than Cheryl Racine. She is a victim of a violent crime which killed her best friend and severely injured her.

On Aug. 10, 1992, Racine and her best friend, Carrie Lynn Pinard, were standing near the door of their apartment on Dunn Street in Toronto, when a young offender named Ali Rahman fired a shotgun, the blast from which ripped through the door, killing Pinard and blinding Racine in the right eye.

Racine has since recovered from the incident, but there are two bullets and metal fragments lodged in her skull. She must undergo an operation in May to lift her right eyelid.

Racine sits on her bed comfortably and smiles. Her smile is sincere. Except for her right eye, Racine doesn't look like a victim of four gunshot wounds to the head. She speaks strongly about her injury and of Pinard's death.

"Presenting my story to high school students and trying to petition [the government to change] the Young Offender's Act for stronger punishments has helped me get through Carrie's death."

After Rahman was tried and convicted in Ontario Adult Court, Racine and Pinard's 16-year-old sister Lesley, decided to present their story to young people. Racine and Lesley Pinard have been visiting high schools in the Niagara Region to tell students how they lost a best friend and sister to a young offender and to petition for stiffer penalties for young offenders who commit sex offenses or murder.

Rahman received 11 years in a maximum security young offenders centre with possibility of parole in three years.

Racine was born and raised in Welland where she has lived with her parents for 21 years. Since she was a high school student, Racine wanted to move to Toronto to live and work.

'Don't open the door...' Racine

"My friend Carrie and I, ever since high school, wanted to become roommates and live in a big city," said Racine.

On June 20,1992, after graduating from Niagara College's Office Administration Executive program, she moved into the small apartment house in Toronto with her best friend Pinard, a recent graduate of high school and a Toronto model.

"Our apartment was near the Canadian National Exhibition grounds," she said. "Everyone we talked to about the area didn't think we would have a problem with crime."

For the few months that the two women lived together, Racine says they got along well.

"We had a lot in common and she had a lot of patience," said Racine. "Carrie was so easy going. Sometimes I would rush home from work just to tell her something that happened at work."

On the night of the shooting, Racine, Pinard, Pinard's sister Lesley, and Carrie Pinard's boyfriend were in the apartment visiting. Pinard was supposed to leave for Japan on a modeling contract in a few weeks.

"It was really hot and humid that night," said Racine. "Carrie and I stepped out of our apartment and onto the fire escape. A whole bunch of young guys walked between us to get to the apartment across from us."

A fight broke out between the young men and the tenants who lived across the hall.

"It was the worst fight I've ever seen," she said. "Bats were being used. There were broken beer bottles being smashed over people's heads. I took Carrie's hand, we ducked by the fight and ran into our apartment."

Pinard's boyfriend had been locked out of the apartment when the girls shut the door. He called to Pinard to open the door and just as she was unlocking it, shots blasted through the door, hitting her in the neck and Racine in the face. Pinard bled to death on the way to the hospital.

"The last thing I said to her was 'Don't open the door Carrie, it's dangerous,'" said Racine.

The presentation Racine and Lesley Pinard give to the students evokes emotion. It is not uncommon to see tears in the students' eyes after they have seen Carrie's pictures and heard the song written for her.

In her presentation, Racine outlines the changes she wants made to the Young Offender's Act.

"Lesley and I both felt that we didn't do enough for Carrie the night of the accident," she said. "Now we're trying to do something about what happened."

If Racine gets her way, a young offender who commits murder or sex offenses will receive a more severe punishment, automatic psychological evaluation, announcement of his/her name in the newspaper, and will have a record for life.

"Are the laws protecting the victims or the young offenders?" asked Racine. "Kids get away with murder was once a foolish saying but in reality the laws have let it come true."

Cheryl Racine gazes at a photo of Carrie Lynn Pinard and the Pinard family and reflects on memories of her best friend.

Photo by Samantha Magill

Tourism centre freeze

By KAREN KRANJAC
and SHERI GOODMAN
Staff Writers

Blustery, frigid temperatures from last week's winter storm caused the Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls, Ont., to close down Monday.

Roof-mounted mechanical units froze open allowing cold air to enter the building freezing the fire sprinklers and water pipes.

"The dampers do jam in abnormal circumstances and it freezes the pipes," said David Davies, director at the centre.

On Monday morning, when the heat was turned on the pipes cracked because of ice expansion and the heat thawed out several sections of the pipes, said Davies.

There are two water systems that allow the centre to function: the water system for the sinks and hoods in the kitchens and 125 pounds of pressure for the sprinklers. Both systems were frozen. When the fire sprinklers thawed an alarm was activated which is directly connected with the Niagara Falls Fire Department which answered the call.

"The labs have to be isolated to be fixed," said Davies. "That's why the students were sent home and we've only had to postpone one lab."

A fluctuating water pressure problem still exists. Davies anticipates it will be another day or two before the system is fixed.

Governor race

Continued from page 1

McDonald led students protesting the proposed school-year lengthening to President John Saso's office last month where they had what Saso called a "professional dialogue."

McDonald said he would like to carry that attitude over to the board. He said the last few student governors have lacked the experience necessary to represent students as much as possible.

Arcand of Simcoe said her biggest concern was the restructuring of the school year, which she was not aware of until meetings were held with David Schleich, vice-president academic, shortly before the decision to scrap the plan.

Voting hours at all campuses are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for day students and from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Hennepin Hall Continuing Education office (H-21) for night students.

Restructured year will help 'cash flow problem'

By TROY CLARKE
Staff Writer

Niagara College officials expect the new 30-week school year to generate at least $500,000 over the next two years.

"The projected figure in the budget that we're building this week in fact is $250,000 this year, and next year, with the 30-week year model, I have a figure of about roughly the same in mind," David Schleich, vice-president academic said, adding, he is waiting to see what new programming the college can get in place before he has an exact figure.

A third-optional term- will run from May to the end of July

Through contracts and a collective bargaining agreement, faculty will teach 36-weeks instead of their usual 30 to 32 weeks, which will help the college with what Schleich calls a "cash flow problem."

The new year provides for a semester, which will generate revenue from increased enrolment, that runs from the beginning of May to the end of July during which time administrators plan to utilize faculty contracts.

"Now what happens is we will have enough activity in that summer semester, that more of those teachers will teach an extra six weeks and there's no extra cost to the college because they're paid anyway," Schleich said.

The new year will run from September to the middle of December, with a 24-day Christmas break. Term two will run from Jan. 10 to the end of April. A third - optional term - will run from May to the end of July.

Recent cuts in government funding have forced college officials to look at new ways to generate revenue. Consequently, the Ministry of Education and Training is requesting Ontario colleges generate this funding on their own.

In addition to restructuring, the college is increasing revenue through international education which could generate up to $650,00 this year, up from $180,000 two years ago.

Revenue from international education is higher than that from Queen's Park, Schleich said.

It's a blooming open house

By SAMANTHA MAGILL
Staff Writer

Spring has blossomed at Niagara College's Horticultural Centre in St. Catharines.

The centre's 25th annual open house and plant sale, located at 360 Niagara St., is on March 20 and 21. The show begins at 9:30 a.m. and runs until 4:30 p.m. both days.

"There is a lot of enthusiasm from the public," said Tom Ball, co-ordinator of Niagara College's Horticultural program. "Many people have been calling in and asking about the show. We expect a steady flow of people for both days."

In 1992, more than 4,200 people visited the centre's open house and plant show.

The show will exhibit different displays of plants, flowers and foliage that first and second-year Horticultural program students have developed. It will also exhibit displays from area horticultural and plant societies.

A special refreshments room will be turned into a tropical paradise for visitors.

There is no admission charge for the show. Potted and hanging plants such as chrysanthemums and geraniums will be for sale to the public.

ERSN students received prizes for their Bowl for Millions efforts last Thursday. Pictured standing are Cynthia Curtis, Karen Davis, Arlene Morrison, Sonya Steetson and Neddy McIntee. Seated are Melissa Odding and Julie Haydon.

Photo by Roger Stroop

Bowlers raise $4,800

By ROGER STROOP
Staff Writer

Seven Education Resource-Special Needs (ERSN) students received prizes last Thursday for their efforts in the 1993 Big Brothers Bowl for Millions, which was held Feb. 6.

Melissa Odding won the Adult Top Money Earner prize for raising $1,741 in pledges. She received two tickets for a performance of Phantom of the Opera in Toronto, with overnight accommodation at the Delta Chelsea Inn.

Julie Haydon won the second prize of a 12-speed bicycle for raising $1,629 in pledges. She received her prize earlier.

Other students receiving prizes included Arlene Morrison, who was awarded a gift certificate at the Factory Outlet Mall, Cynthia Curtis, who received a Food Terminal gift certificate, Sonya Steetson, who won brunch at Family Robbins restaurant, Karen Davis, who was given an Iona cordless hand mixer, and Neddy McIntee, who received 12 Mason jars.

Greg Whelan, executive director of Big Brothers of South Niagara, awarded the prizes and thanked ERSN co-ordinator Elvira Lucas and student Denise Hopkins for their organizational help, as well as the rest of the students for raising nearly $4,800.

Lucas said she and the students wished to thank all Niagara students and staff who sponsored students in the Bowl for Millions.

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PURCHASES CAN BE MADE.

Artist Audrey Shimizu, shows Ambivalence, part of the Running the Silk Gauntlet collection.

Photo by Sheri Goodman

Violence in society shown in art

By SHERI GOODMAN
Staff Writer

Running the gauntlet is to risk attack from all sides. The phrase came from punishing a soldier for wrong doing by making him run between facing lines of his fellow soldiers who whipped him with knotted ropes. Swedish troops called this passageway of soldiers a gantlope but the English interpreted it as gauntlet and called the process running the gauntlet.

Audrey Shimizu of St. Catharines feminized the violence of the gauntlet in her art collection titled Running the Silk Gauntlet.

"The silk gauntlet is the trials and difficulties that females have gone through and are still going through," Shimizu said. Her collection is one of nine shown at the Niagara Art Centre (NAC) for the Centre's Politics of Gender theme.

Running the Silk Gauntlet explores violence against women, the Montreal massacre, women in the arts and lack of equality.

Shimizu said she doesn't see herself as a feminist.

"I'm for equality for women. I would like to see men and women working together to better humanity."

She said things are better now, but there are still a lot of injustices and subtle things.

"There's too much domestic and child violence where men feel they're bigger and stronger than women."

The collection came together over years of work.

"I'd make a print and leave it for awhile," Shimizu said.

As a member of NAC, she heard about the Politics of Gender theme and seriously worked for a year on Running the Silk Gauntlet.

Her works incorporate elements of photographs, advertising and photocopies layered to portray the facts of violence, gender roles and history. Among the prints there are photocopied articles where one can see the smiling familiar picture of Leslie Mahaffy. Seeing this brings the issues closer to home.

In a separate and related body of work Me and My Aunt, Shimizu uses her aunt's hankerchiefs in the prints.

On finding the box of handkerchiefs, Shimizu was reminded of different aspects of her aunt.

Her aunt was a cashier at the Park Plaza Hotel in Toronto and wore different handkerchiefs on her jackets.

"She was indoctrined to think about how she looked on the job," Shimizu said.

"She is a role model. She had an independent wage and worked outside the home with structured hours."

Shimizu said her aunt was born in 1899 and died in 1975.

Her independent, working aunt tied in with the theme on a personal and nostalgic link.

Shimizu graduated from the Ontario College of Art in 1956 after which she worked as a commercial artist. She lives in St. Catharines with her husband and two children.

One of the first pieces Shimizu created for this collection is Street Ladies.

She said she saw an advertisement in a magazine of two models standing on the street. She found a picture of a bag lady and incorporated the two pictures so the bag lady takes the place of a model.

"How you say it and what you do with it, is art."

Running the Silk Gauntlet will be shown until April 10 at the Niagara Art Centre, 235 St. Paul St., in St. Catharines. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday noon to 5 p.m. and on Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. There is no admission charge.

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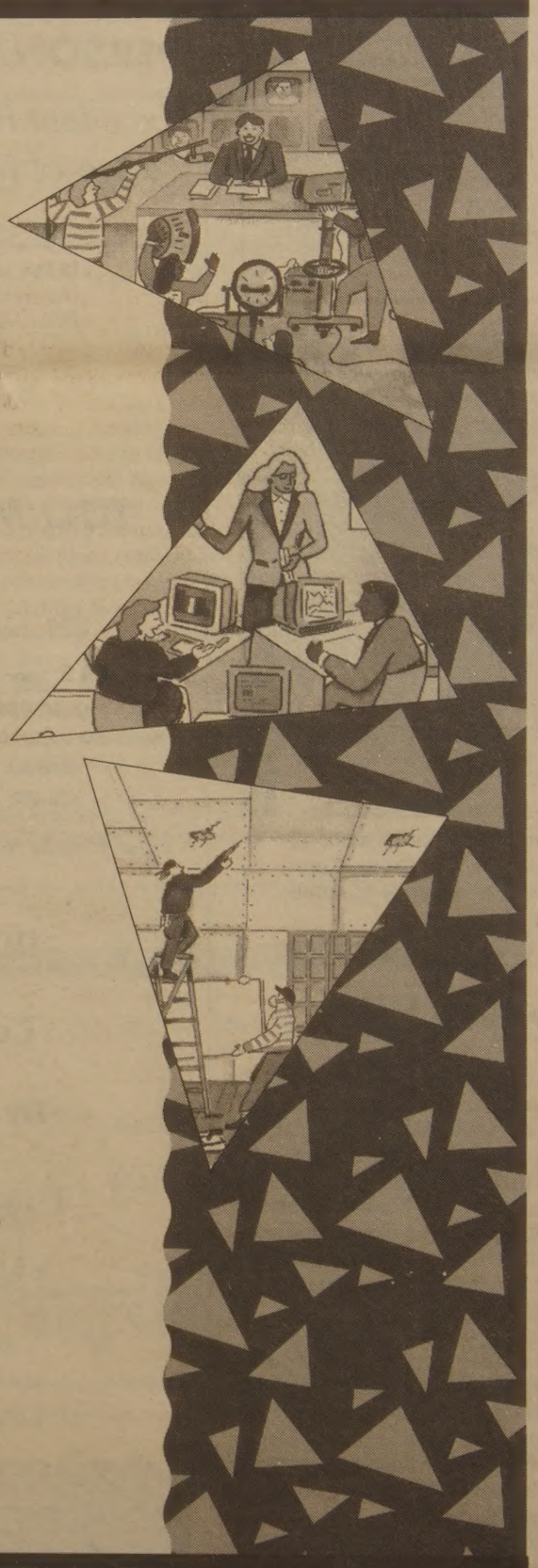

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College housing office to open

By ARLENE ARCH
Staff Writer

Niagara College's Housing Office staff is setting up housing registers for the 1993-94 academic term as students from outside the area will be looking for accommodations.

The registers contain names of people interested in renting accommodations to students and what those accommodations include.

Randy Conlon, information officer at Niagara College, says the registers are "glorified want ads."

The only change made to the process of putting together the registers is the $25 fee required from anyone wishing to register available accommodations with the college.

An application package will be mailed to landlords who registered with the college in 1992-93 within the next two weeks. For new landlords wishing to register call (416)735-2211, 688-1380, 384-9760, 382-2383 extension 7618 and an application package will be mailed to you. The Housing Office should have updated registers available by the beginning of April.

'Revolution' in interactive learning

By PATRICK ASELSTINE
Staff Writer

The instructor stood before the class, in the exact spot he was in when he started the lesson nearly an hour earlier. In a monotonous regurgitation of the same, tired, old lesson he had memorized years before, he proceeded to alienate and bore every student in the room.

While students and teachers know this scene all too well, surprisingly few question the validity or effectiveness of this method of education. Al Munro does.

Munro, co-ordinator of the Manufacturing and Engineering Technology program at Niagara College, has a "vision" of a more effective method of learning, something he calls "interactive learning," which he hopes to soon move into the classroom.

The main points of Munro's interactive learning which have evolved from 18 years at the college, first as a mechanical technologist, then as a co-ordinator, are: retaining faculty, but shifting the emphasis on learning to the students and utilizing every available tool to enhance the learning environment.

Munro would like to see learning activities and, in some cases, evaluations wholly or partially controlled by the students under the supervision of an expert faculty member. In addition to shorter, structured lessons from instructors on "key areas," activities would include group discussions, team exercises for items such as problem solving and independent learning which would utilize multi-media apparatus such as televisions, videotapes and computers.

Moving the learning experience from the teacher and presentation mode to the student makes for a more "dynamic" atmosphere where students "feel involved in their education" and retain more information, said Munro.

Al Munro, front, co-ordinator of the Manufacturing Engineering Technology program at Niagara College, doesn't go by the book. Seen here with his fourth-year manufacturing engineering technology class, Munro employs new methods of teaching in an effort to increase students' chances for success.

Photo by Patrick Aselstine

He said as much as 40 or 50 per cent of a course could be studied independently. This would better serve the ever-increasing number of non-traditional students in college who may, because of commitments, have less time and/or money to spend on an education. Rather than being sequential, learning will become parallel, which would increase student and teacher productivity, said Munro. Teachers would be required to spend less time in front of the entire class, freeing more time for them to spend with students requiring extra help. Students easily grasping the material won't be limited by the system; they can advance on their own, selecting their own pace and methods for learning.

"We have a lot of smart people on staff and many times we're wasting our resources because of the way we do things. I'm proposing one possible technique to better utilize our resources."

Moving from the traditional to a new method of learning takes time and must be done carefully, said Munro. He is in the second year of developing two pilot courses which will be modulized so portions can be separated for independent learning. He believes it will be another two years before the courses are ready for the classroom.

The benefits of independent and team work — with the instructor used more as a guide — are immense he said.

"We're developing self esteem. They're (the students) willing to make a statement, to voice an opinion, because they trust that the people around them won't shoot them down."

Munro also said the undue emphasis placed on evaluation creates fear among students and tension between teachers and students.

"No one gave me the right to be a judge. I cannot judge people. That's not my job. I'm an educator. The minute I become judgmental, I'm starting to build walls and close doors on people. We work together and get through the courses."

Although developing a new and more effective method of learning takes time and dedication, Munro said the efforts will be beneficial to students.

"I don't think it's going to come easy. We're going to do things and fall flat on our face. But in the end, it's going to be a learning environment that will be dynamic. People will feel they're involved in their education. They're not just spectators anymore, they're going to be participants."

While his vision isn't "the norm" and "doesn't represent the common thought" in his department, Munro said the education system is starting to go through a sort of "revolution."

"I believe in progressive learning. I think there are better ways of doing things. I also strongly believe in the college system. It's a big elephant, but I think it will turn. I think the system will slowly move towards these new concepts."

Money traders

By ROGER STROOP
Staff Writer

Are you a foreign student looking for a place to exchange your Canadian money before returning home? Are you planning to travel once the school year is over?

If one of the above sentences describes you, Thomas Cook Foreign Exchange wants you to know about their services.

The company, which has been in business for over 150 years, buys and sells currencies "from over 120 countries," says Ida Tavano, branch manager for Thomas Cook's main Niagara office, on Lundy's Lane in Niagara Falls.

"Banks don't often have all the currencies; that's why students seek us out," she added.

Exchanging money before travelling abroad is a good idea because it helps people get used to the different textures and colors of foreign currency, Tavano said.

Thomas Cook also sells travellers' cheques in 11 foreign currencies, bank drafts in 25 currencies, coins and precious metals at the Lundy's Lane branch, said Tavano.

The company is promoting use of its services by students by waiving the service charge on all foreign currency exchanges for students who present valid student identification cards.

"There's no charge ever on travellers' cheques," Tavano said.

The Lundy's Lane office is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Thomas Cook also has another Niagara Falls office open seven days a week from May to October and a Fort Erie office open seven days a week year round and 24 hours a day from June to October.

For more information, call the Lundy's Lane office at 374-3325.

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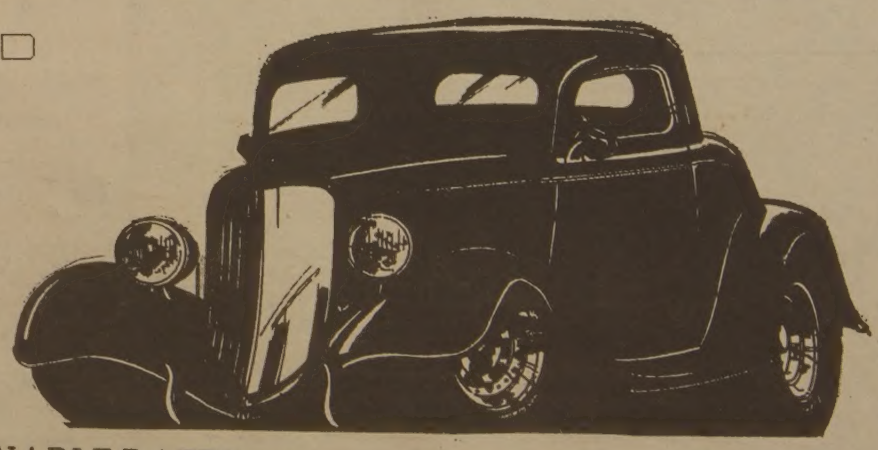

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HELP STOP CRIME AND VIOLENCE!

Questionnaire on Crime and Violence

Crime and violence is rapidly increasing in today's society and things are not any different at post-secondary institutions. Have you ever been a victim of crime or violence? Do you know anyone who has been? If so, we would appreciate it if you would take a few minutes to fill out this survey. Please do not include your name. Your response will help us determine if crime and violence is a problem at Niagara College. Thank you for participating in this survey.

==========

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please check (√) the most appropriate response.

GENDER Male _____ Female _____

AGE 17-20 ___ 21-24 ___ 25-29 ___ 30+ ___

PROGRAM AREA

Applied Health	____	Media & Design	____
Business	____	Nursing	____
Community Services	____	Technology	____
General College	____	Vocational	____
Hospitality & Tourism	____	Other	____

==========

CRIME AND VIOLENCE

1. Have you ever been a victim of crime or violence on campus?

Yes ____ No ____

If YES, which category best describes the incident?

Sexual Abuse	____	Vandalism	____
Verbal Abuse	____	Theft	____
Harassment	____	Physical Assault	____

2. Have you ever been a victim of crime or violence at an off-campus location involving students? (i.e. sporting events, student functions, nightclubs, bars, restaurants, etc.)

Yes ____ No ____

If YES, which category best describes the incident?

Sexual Abuse	____	Vandalism	____
Verbal Abuse	____	Theft	____
Harassment	____	Physical Assault	____

3. Do you think the following services provided by Niagara College are adequate?

Car Walk Sevices	Yes	____	No	____
Daytime Security	Yes	____	No	____
Nighttime Security	Yes	____	No	____
Building Passes	Yes	____	No	____

4. Should there be an anonymous Hot Line/Counselling Service to report incidents?

Yes ____ No ____

5. What other services do you think will help curtail crime and violence on campus?

_____

_____

_____

==========

Please drop off the completed survey to any of the following locations by Wednesday, March 24, 1993.

Niagara News	S212
Learning Resource Centre	-Mack Nursing Centre
	-Welland
	-Niagara Falls
	-St. Catharines
After Hours	Drop Off Box
Centre for Language Studies	S104

SAC positions filled

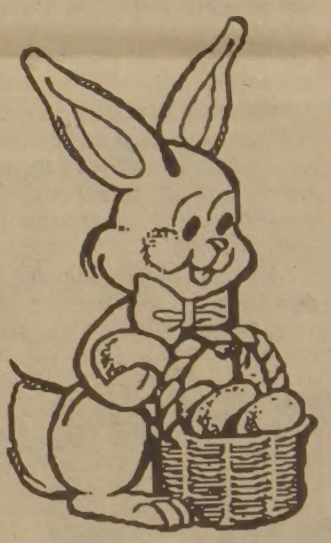
Continued from page 1

looking forward to being president next year.

"I wanted a position with a lot of work and the position that I have now has a lot of work, and I looked for something a bit challenging."

The election is slated for April 12, at the the Mack Centre for Nursing, April 13, at the the Hospitality and Tourism Centre and April 14 at the Welland campus and the Horticultural centre.

FASHION CLUB BOUTIQUE



HOP TO IT

Easter is on it's way and we have the perfect gift for your bunny. (whoop, we mean honey)

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Tuesday - 11:30 -4:30
Wednesday - 9:30 - 11:30
1:30 - 4:30
Thursday - 11:30 - 4:30
Friday - 12:30 - 1:30